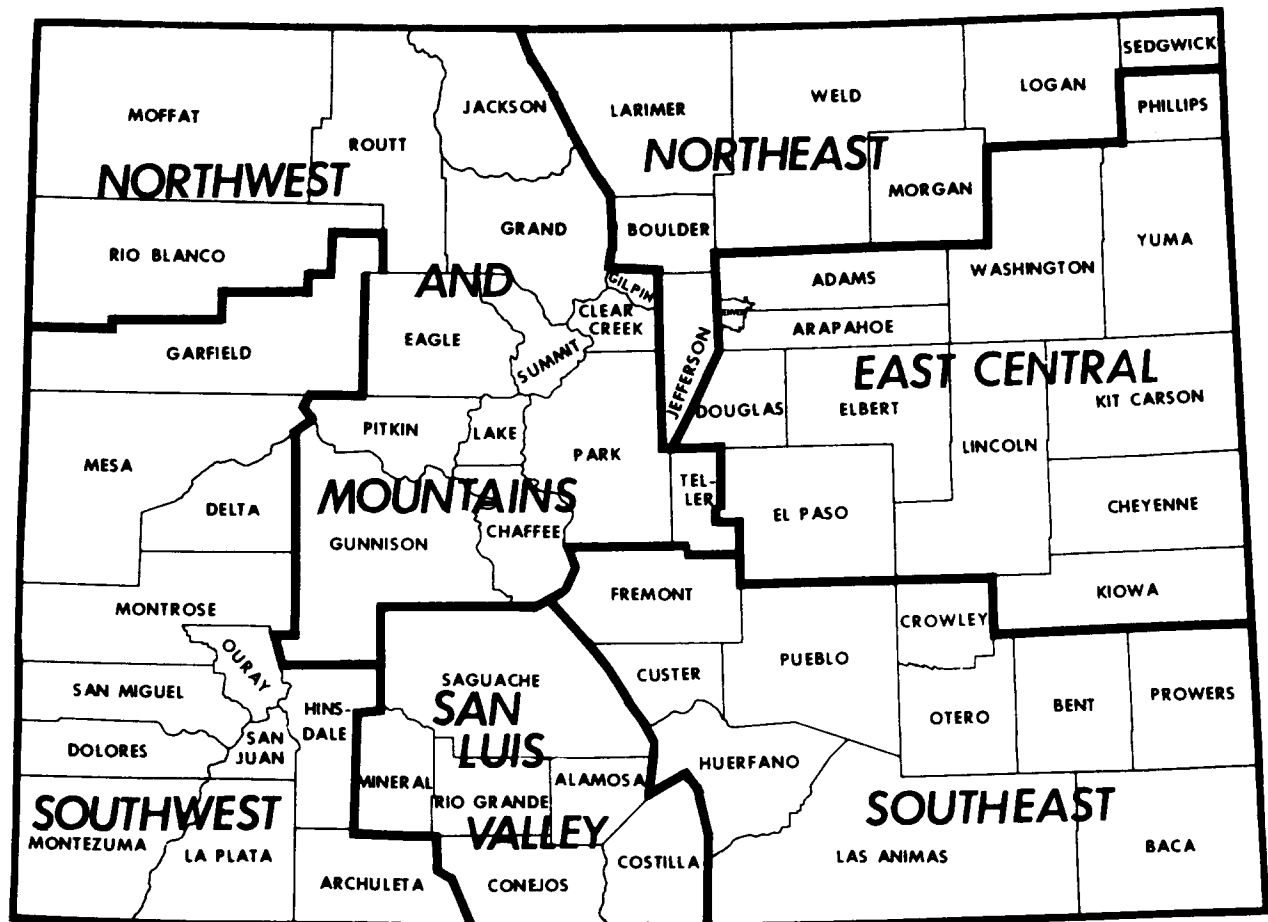


# COLORADO AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS



ASD by Number: Northwest and Mountains = 10; Northeast = 20; East Central = 60; Southwest = 70; San Luis Valley = 80; Southeast = 90

## COLORADO

The Centennial State, admitted to the Union in 1876, is the eighth largest state in area and has the highest average elevation. The highest point is at Mount Elbert, 14,433 feet above sea level, one of the 53 "fourteeners" rising above 14,000 feet. The lowest elevation is 3,350 feet in extreme eastern Prowers County.

Approximate Land Area: 66.4 Million Acres \*  
 Approximate Cropland Area: 10.9 Million Acres \*  
 Approximate Irrigated Area: 3.2 Million Acres \*  
 Number of Farms and Ranches (1997): 24,500  
 Land in Farms and Ranches (1997): 32.5 Million Acres  
 Average Size of Farm and Ranch (1997): 1,327 Acres

### Farms by Type \*

82% Individual  
 11% Partnership  
 6% Corporate  
 1% Other

### Farms By Tenure \*

54% Full Owners  
 32% Part Owners  
 14% Tenants

### Farms By Class \*

59% Livestock & Poultry  
 41% Crops

\* 1992 Federal Census of Agriculture

Farm Marketing Receipts (1996):	4,229.4	Million
Livestock & Livestock Products:	2,759.1	Million (65.2% of the total)
Field, Fruit, & Vegetable Crops:	1,470.3	Million (34.8% of the total)

# COLORADO AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

1997 Preliminary - 1996 Revised  
*and*  
Annual Report 1997-98  
Colorado Department of Agriculture

Issued Cooperatively By

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE



COLORADO  
DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE

DONALD M. BAY, Administrator

THOMAS A. KOURLIS, Commissioner

Prepared and Published by

**COLORADO AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**

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# STATE OF COLORADO

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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July, 1998

Roy Romer  
Governor

Thomas A. Kourlis  
Commissioner

Robert C. McLavey  
Deputy Commissioner

Dear Friends,

Thank you to Colorado's agricultural producers for completing the surveys that made this publication possible. This Colorado Agricultural Statistics book is a tribute to Colorado's farmers and ranchers who feed the nation and the world, provide wildlife habitat, protect the environment and fuel the state economy.

Colorado producers experienced another year of weather and market volatility. Good moisture with few widespread hailstorms and freezes helped farmers produce record large corn and hay crops. Winter wheat acreage lost to hail was the lowest in 8 years. While hay producers received record high prices for quality hay, corn and wheat producers saw prices fall to the lowest level in three to four years. Potato producers experienced record low prices in the spring of 1997. Western slope fruit producers again had early freezes. Livestock producers in Eastern Colorado, with record large inventories of hogs and pigs, and cattle in feedlots were hit with the *Blizzard of '97*, which killed more than 26,000 animals.

As Colorado's agricultural industry goes through adverse times, producers need to use every possible economic tool in order to survive. Dependable statistics are virtually indispensable in helping farmers and ranchers, bankers and agri-business, legislators, farm organizations and government agencies plan for the future.

The Colorado Department of Agriculture's Annual Report, outlining the department's responsibilities, activities and services is published in the back of this book. Some of the agriculture department's hot issues this fiscal year have been: water quality, food safety, bee losses, disaster response, animal diseases, animal cruelty, trapping, range standards and guidelines, wolf hybrids, risk-based inspection, the Food Quality Protection Act, noxious weed control, the Colorado State Fair, pricing and scanning inaccuracy, efficiency and Colorado Peak Performance. Please take a minute to read about these hot and on-going issues. You are always welcome to call us at 1-800-886-7683 and give us your comments.

At the Colorado Department of Agriculture, we are committed to keeping the state's agricultural industry strong and strengthening agriculture's future. We are committed to creating economic opportunities for agriculture; helping every one enjoy safe and abundant food; promoting environmental quality and animal health; and ensuring equity and integrity in business and government.

Thank you for supporting the agricultural industry and thanks to the Colorado Dry Bean Administrative Committee for the cover of this book.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Kourlis  
Commissioner

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# Rank in Agriculture: Colorado's rank among states, 1997

Commodity	Unit	Colorado		Leading State		United States total
		Rank	Production	State	Production	
<b>FIELD CROPS:</b>						
Barley . . . . .	1,000 bu.	6	10,080	North Dakota	101,250	374,478
Beans, dry edible . . . . .	1,000 cwt.	6	2,280	North Dakota	6,890	29,156
Corn, grain . . . . .	1,000 bu.	13	150,380	Iowa	1,656,000	9,365,574
Corn, silage . . . . .	1,000 tons	10	2,475	Wisconsin	10,950	91,903
Hay, all . . . . .	1,000 tons	14	4,388	Texas	10,790	152,120
Hay, alfalfa . . . . .	1,000 tons	10	3,198	California	7,056	79,242
Hay, other . . . . .	1,000 tons	22	1,190	Texas	10,320	72,878
Oats . . . . .	1,000 bu.	20	1,904	Wisconsin	20,790	176,104
Potatoes, all . . . . .	1,000 cwt.	3	28,037	Idaho	135,430	459,912
Potatoes, fall . . . . .	1,000 cwt.	5	25,377	Idaho	135,430	417,088
Potatoes, summer . . . . .	1,000 cwt.	1	2,660	Colorado	2,660	17,951
Rye . . . . .	1,000 bu.	19	69	Georgia	1,430	8,912
Sorghum, grain . . . . .	1,000 bu.	11	5,600	Kansas	273,000	653,106
Sorghum, silage . . . . .	1,000 tons	5	234	Kansas	1,280	3,885
Sugar beets . . . . .	1,000 tons	6	1,308	Minnesota	8,251	29,874
Sunflowers, all . . . . .	1,000 lbs.	5	86,100	North Dakota	1,862,900	3,763,428
Sunflowers, oil varieties . . . . .	1,000 lbs.	5	56,400	North Dakota	1,463,000	3,074,456
Sunflowers, non-oil varieties . . . . .	1,000 lbs.	5	29,700	North Dakota	399,900	688,972
Wheat, all <u>1/</u> . . . . .	1,000 bu.	9	94,700	Kansas	506,000	2,526,552
Wheat, spring <u>2/</u> . . . . .	1,000 bu.	8	3,500	North Dakota	210,000	557,750
Wheat, winter . . . . .	1,000 bu.	5	91,200	Kansas	506,000	1,882,609
<b>VEGETABLES: <u>3/</u></b>						
Cabbage . . . . .	1,000 cwt.	8	819	New York	6,528	27,395
Cantaloupe . . . . .	1,000 cwt.	6	330	California	14,410	23,556
Carrots . . . . .	1,000 cwt.	2	2,450	California	25,524	33,599
Corn, sweet . . . . .	1,000 cwt.	7	957	Florida	5,782	22,587
Cucumbers (P) . . . . .	Tons	10	6,080	Michigan	130,000	619,090
Lettuce . . . . .	1,000 cwt.	3	660	California	49,350	68,542
Onions (storage only) . . . . .	1,000 cwt.	5	5,355	California	12,760	49,575
Spinach . . . . .	1,000 cwt.	4	109	California	1,243	1,903
<b>FRUITS:</b>						
Apples . . . . .	Mil lbs.	25	35	Washington	4,900	10,227
Cherries, tart . . . . .	Mil lbs.	8	0.7	Michigan	225	289
Peaches . . . . .	Mil lbs.	20	7	California	1,887	2,651
Pears . . . . .	Tons	7	3,000	Washington	455,000	1,044,000
<b>LIVESTOCK: <u>4/</u></b>						
All cattle & calves . . . . .	1,000 head	10	3,100	Texas	14,300	99,501
All cows <u>5/</u> . . . . .	1,000 head	17	900	Texas	5,900	42,874
Beef cows <u>5/</u> . . . . .	1,000 head	15	816	Texas	5,520	33,683
Milk cows <u>5/</u> . . . . .	1,000 head	28	84	Wisconsin	1,380	9,191
Milk production, 1997 . . . . .	Mil lbs.	21	1,679	California	27,628	156,603
Calf crop, 1997 . . . . .	1,000 head	16	860	Texas	5,100	38,718
Cattle on feed <u>6/</u> . . . . .	1,000 head	4	1,140	Texas	2,860	13,618
Fed cattle marketings <u>7/</u> . . . . .	1,000 head	4	5,595	Texas	5,800	22,789
All sheep & lambs . . . . .	1,000 head	4	575	Texas	1,500	7,616
Breeding sheep & lambs . . . . .	1,000 head	7	240	Texas	1,170	5,537
Lamb crop, 1997 . . . . .	1,000 head	9	225	Texas	910	5,245
Market sheep & lambs . . . . .	1,000 head	2	335	California	430	2,079
Wool production, 1997 . . . . .	1,000 lbs.	4	3,936	Texas	10,950	53,889
All hogs & pigs . . . . .	1,000 head	15	790	Iowa	14,000	59,920
Pig crop, 1997 . . . . .	1,000 head	14	1,700	North Carolina	18,132	98,984
All chickens . . . . .	1,000 head	23	4,618	Ohio	33,142	403,495
All layers . . . . .	1,000 head	21	3,670	Ohio	27,058	311,084
Egg production, 1997 . . . . .	Million	25	855	Ohio	6,976	77,401
<b>MISCELLANEOUS:</b>						
Farms, 1997 . . . . .	Number	30	24,500	Texas	205,000	2,058,910
Land in farms . . . . .	1,000 acres	12	32,500	Texas	129,000	968,338
Average size of farm . . . . .	Acres	8	1,327	Arizona	4,720	470

1/ Includes Durum wheat. 2/ Excludes Durum wheat. 3/ Fresh market except where noted as processing (P). 4/ Inventory January 1, 1998 for cattle and sheep; December 1, 1997 for hogs and chickens. 5/ Cows and heifers that have calved. 6/ As of 1/1/98. 7/ 13 major feeding states.

**Farms, land in farms, and average size, Colorado and U. S. , 1988-97**

Year	Colorado			United States		
	Farms <u>1/</u>	Land in farms	Average size	Farms <u>1/</u>	Land in farms	Average size
	Number	1,000 Acres	Acres	Number	1,000 Acres	Acres
1988 .....	27,300	33,700	1,234	2,200,940	994,423	452
1989 .....	27,000	33,500	1,241	2,174,520	990,723	456
1990 .....	26,500	33,100	1,249	2,145,820	986,850	460
1991 .....	26,000	32,800	1,262	2,116,760	981,736	464
1992 .....	25,500	32,800	1,286	2,107,840	978,503	464
1993 .....	25,500	32,800	1,286	2,083,430	976,463	469
1994 .....	25,300	32,700	1,292	2,064,720	973,403	471
1995 .....	25,000	32,700	1,308	2,071,520	972,253	469
1996 .....	24,500	32,500	1,327	2,063,910	970,048	470
1997 .....	24,500	32,500	1,327	2,058,910	968,338	470

1/ Places with annual sales of agricultural products of \$1,000 or more.

**Livestock Operations: Number by type, Colorado, 1989-97**

Year	All cattle operations	Beef cow operations <u>1/</u>	Milk cow operations <u>1/</u>	Cattle feedlots <u>1/ 2/</u>	Sheep operations	Hog operations
	Number					
1989 .....	15,000	10,800	1,700	295	2,300	2,400
1990 .....	15,000	10,800	1,700	285	2,200	2,000
1991 .....	14,500	10,500	1,400	295	2,000	1,800
1992 .....	14,000	10,500	1,300	295	1,900	1,600
1993 .....	13,000	10,500	1,300	295	1,800	1,600
1994 .....	13,000	10,500	1,100	290	1,600	1,600
1995 .....	13,000	10,000	1,000	290	1,300	1,400
1996 .....	12,500	9,500	900	166	1,300	1,100
1997 .....	13,000	9,500	900	174	1,200	1,000

1/ Included in all cattle operations.

2/ Beginning 1996 includes only feedlots with 1,000 head capacity or greater.

**Cattle: Percent of operations and inventory by size group, by class, Colorado, 1992-97**

Year/Class	Operations having				Inventory on operations having			
	1-49 Head	50-99 Head	100-499 Head	500+ Head	1-49 Head	50-99 Head	100-499 Head	500+ Head
	Percent				Percent			
<b>1992</b>								
All Cattle & Calves	47.0	16.0	29.0	8.0	4.0	5.0	28.0	63.0
Beef Cows .....	59.0	16.0	25.0	<u>1/</u>	13.0	13.0	74.0	<u>1/</u>
<b>1993</b>								
All Cattle & Calves	43.8	16.2	31.5	8.5	3.5	4.5	27.0	65.0
Beef Cows .....	60.0	16.2	21.9	1.9	13.0	14.0	53.0	20.0
<b>1994</b>								
All Cattle & Calves	43.8	15.4	32.3	8.5	3.4	4.6	28.0	64.0
Beef Cows .....	60.0	16.2	21.9	1.9	13.0	14.0	53.0	20.0
<b>1995</b>								
All Cattle & Calves	43.8	15.4	32.3	8.5	3.0	4.0	28.0	65.0
Beef Cows .....	58.0	14.0	26.0	2.0	11.0	12.0	57.0	20.0
<b>1996</b>								
All Cattle & Calves	44.0	14.4	32.8	8.8	3.2	3.8	29.0	64.0
Beef Cows .....	55.8	15.8	25.8	2.6	11.0	12.0	54.0	23.0
<b>1997</b>								
All Cattle & Calves	45.4	14.6	32.3	7.7	3.1	3.9	28.0	65.0
Beef Cows .....	55.8	16.8	24.7	2.6	11.0	13.0	54.0	22.0

1/ Not estimated.